INFORMATION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

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COUNTRY USSR/Germany

SUBJECT ZIS Truck Model

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1. The ZIS truck is built for Russian roads and designed for a speed of 30 to 40 km. per hr. The ZIS engine is overstrained at a speed of 50 km per hour.

2. The cylinder block and the cylinder head heat up at a speed of 50 km per hour. The material does not stand this strain. Cracks develop mainly around spark plugs and also at the exhaust valve. The spark plugs become damp misfire because of water seeping through these cracks. The fuel pumps and also fail frequently. When the pump diaphragm is excessively used at great speed and during long trips, the pump stalls, breaks and no longer pumps fuel into the carburetor. As a result of these deficiencies the copper-asbestos gasket between the cylinder block and the cylinder head is damaged, or the copper sheet is burned which permits water to seep through leaky spots. When overstrained, the tooth will break off the gear wheel of the differential gear. One to three teeth were broken off this gear wheel on about 20 trucks observed by source. Roller bearing overstrained by increased speed may cause jamming of the universal joint. The truck body, which is made of fir wood, breaks easily and rattles.

3. During 30 repair jobs, source observed that every engine had two to three cracks. These trucks are no longer used for extensive trips. Even a trip from Potsdam (N 53/E 63) to Leipzig (N 53/E 21) is a great risk. According to source the ZIS model will gradually be withdrawn from traffic.

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